



KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Vol. 115 | No. 54

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009



SPORTS



Read Page 5 for a prece on the volleyball match Sunday at 6 pm.

INSIDE

Make sure to read our Once in a Lifetime section on Page 7 for wedding announcements and stories about a couple of couples that have been together longer than you have been alive.

Messy eater? Read Page 3 for a story about a dinner etiquette banquet hosted by CES.

SGA

Commissioner confirmed, discusses cell phone ban

By Danny Davis
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The Student Governing Association confirmed the appointment of Kathleen Sexton, sophomore in secondary education, elections commissioner for the 2010 SGA elections.

She said she was thankful to have the opportunity to play a role in the election process. Her job requires regulating election campaigns and reviewing appeals.

Her confirmation did not come without debate, however. Doug Shane, junior in animal studies and industry, said he felt that the selection process was corrupt. Additionally, Shane said he felt that a majority of the Student Senate knew who would be selected for the position.

See SGA, Page 8

ABC, RCPD to patrol tailgates Sat.

By Jason Miller
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

During Saturday's tailgates, an additional effort to catch minors consuming alcohol is scheduled, according to a K-State Police Department press release.

K-State police and agents from the Kansas Division of Alcohol Beverage Control plan to proactively enforce alcohol regulations in the parking lots and surrounding areas of Snyder Family Stadium during the game Saturday.

"The purpose of that kind of patrol is to reinforce responsible behavior," said Dalton Henry, student body president. "If students know the police will patrol more than normal, people will act responsibly and will have a good time."

The officers and agents said they plan to focus on underage drinkers and those who provided the alcohol to minors. The K-State Police Department will use grant money from the Kansas Department of Transportation to fund this alcohol enforcement team.

The press release stated this year in particular, K-State police have seen a sizable increase in large parties and quantities of alcohol being consumed compared to previous years.

Sports marketing club sponsors spirit rally

By Hannah Loftus
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The K-State Sports Marketing Club sponsored U.S. Cellular to come to Bosco Student Plaza for a spirit rally Thursday afternoon.

Mike Wolfe, senior in marketing and the club's president, said U.S. Cellular needed a sponsor so it could come to the campus to do the rally. However, it was also a great opportunity to promote the new club.

Activities at the event included an inflatable bungee run, a green screen photo station and free T-shirts.

Wolfe said the club was created by himself and two other students when they noticed a need for marketing students to promote themselves, giving them a chance to use their marketing skills for different sports organizations in the area.

"It is a really great chance to be out here today and promote the club and

See CLUB, Page 10

Drowning in debt



Photo illustration by Lisle Alderton

Students fail to pay increasing loans

By Sheila Ellis
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Rising costs of tuition and living expenses coupled with a slimming job market have caused K-State's student loan default rate to almost double from 1.5 percent to 2.7 percent. However, K-State's default rate average is considerably lower than the national average of 6.7 percent.

Defaulting occurs when borrowers fail to make loan payments for 270 consecutive days. According to the most recent statistics from the U.S. Department of Education, 135 K-State borrowers whose first loan payment came due between October 2006 and September 2007 defaulted by October 2008.

But the default rate is not the only rate that's increased at K-State, so has the number of student's needing financial assistance.

Larry Moeder, director of student financial assistance at K-State, said the number of financial aid applications is up 26 percent compared to last year.

"Students are taking out more stu-

University default rates	2009	2008
Kansas State University	2.7	1.5
Emporia State University	5.9	3.6
Wichita State University	5.4	3.1
Pittsburg State University	5	4.1
Fort Hays State University	4.7	2.4
University of Kansas	2.6	2.3

dent loans in the down economy," said K-State Student Body President Dalton Henry. "As we see tuition continue to rise, we will continue to see students taking out more loans."

Jahvelle Rhone, senior in sociology, said he had to take out about 25 percent more in loans this year than in previous years to cover rent, tuition and living expenses.

Among the most recent round of tuition hikes at the six state universities, K-State suffered the least with a 3.5 percent increase compared to Wichita State University, the highest at 8.5 percent.

"It was a very responsible decision

by K-State," Henry said. "We have tried to keep a K-State education affordable and accessible to students. We are trying to maintain affordability."

Compared to other schools in Kansas, K-State's default rate is considerably low with KU coming in at 2.6 percent at the lowest and Emporia State University at the highest with 5.9 percent.

Overall, 3.3 million student borrowers in the U.S. entered repayment during this period, and more than 225,000 went into default. The latest national loan default rate climbed to 6.7 percent, up from 5.2 percent the previous year.

INCREASING NEED FOR STUDENT LOANS

Moeder said K-State students borrowed \$80 million last year in federal loans through the federal government's Student Loan Program. That is a \$5 million or 6 percent increase from the 2005 to 2006 academic year.

See LOANS, Page 9

"Students are not going through the entire financial analysis of taking out loans. They just check the box and say 'Yes, I need the money.'"

— Jodi Kaus, Powercat Financial Counseling program director

K-State at Salina opens new student life center

By Hannah Loftus
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

It took a total of four tries to sink the first basket on the floor of the new gym Thursday evening at the official ribbon cutting ceremony of the K-State-Salina campus Student Life Center. The basket was made by President Kirk Schulz with the help of Dennis Kuhlman, dean of the College of Technology and Aviation.

The ceremony, which officially opened the new recreation center, included speeches from President Schulz; Roger White, senior vice president for marketing and sales at Cessna Aircraft in Wichita; and K-State-Salina campus Student Body President Brian Koester. The master of ceremonies for the evening's events was Mark Friesen, director of development at the College of Technology and Aviation.

The ribbon cutting ceremony and the reception attracted notable people from around the Salina, Manhattan and Wichita areas, including Salina Mayor Lucy Larson.

"This project has been in the works for a long time, and it's exciting to see it all finally come together with every-



Chelsy Lueth | COLLEGIAN
K-State President, Kirk Schulz, and student president Brian Koester cut the ceremonial ribbon in the newly opened Recreational Facility at the K-State Salina campus.

consideration of future expansion and construction.

"We were actually hoping to complete the construction in June, however due to some weather related issues, we had to delay construction a little bit," Friesen said.

Friesen said the construction of the new center started in January 2008 and it took 20 months to complete. However, the center is designed for the

old building will now be used for an unmanned aerial systems lab because of the space the gym provides.

"The old recreation center was in poor shape, it was located three miles down the road from campus," Koester said. "It was always leaking and the heater never worked. It was time for a new building. That is why on Oct. 18 of 2005, the SGA passed a referendum to build the new student recreation and life center."

Koester said the referendum passed with a two-thirds majority.

"We really hope that a lot more students will use this facility and that it becomes a gathering place or a hangout spot for students to use in their free time," Koester said. "Now that the center is located on campus, it is a lot more accessible to students."

Koester said the new building will be the focal point of various new activities. Besides exercise equipment, a gym and a running track, the center will play host to club meetings for free enterprise club, women in aviation and the programming board. The center will also

See SALINA, Page 10

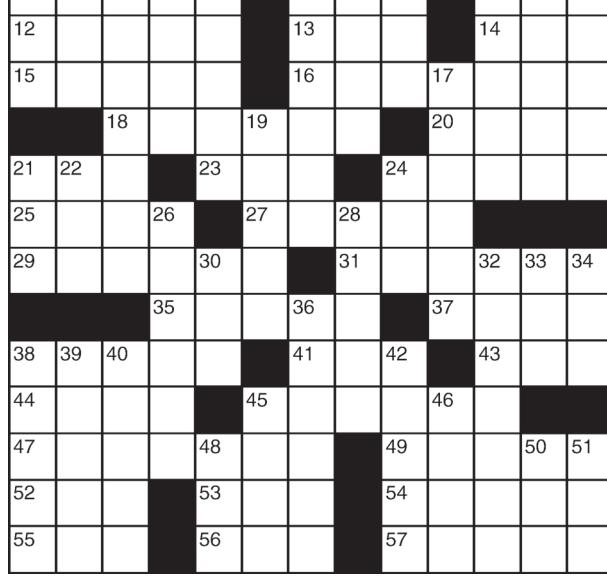
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12 Farther down the page	45 Backbone-related	4 Gratis	26 Brick-layer's tool
13 See 8-Down	47 Recommended safety limit	5 Ex-governor Palin	28 "SNL" alumna Oteri
14 High-arc shot	49 Hotel accommodation	6 Completely	30 Sister
15 Postpone	52 Lemieux	7 Zen paradox	32 Phone to the president
16 Slogan	milieu	8 With 13-Across, Christmas quaff	33 Submachine gun type
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20 — out (supplements)	54 Of an armbone	10 Lost cause	36 Pickled buds used as a garnish
21 Hawaiian garland	55 Apiece	11 Not just pudgy	38 Disrobe
23 Smack	56 Boom times	17 Releases	39 Fragment
24 Cubic meter	57 Plant swelling	19 Mustard variety	40 Rattlesnake's cousin
25 "It Romantic?"			42 Follow
27 Athletes			45 Child's play
29 Buffet-table heater			46 Lang Syne"
31 Out of reach, maybe			48 Chit
35 Prevention measure			50 Scot's topper
37 Leak slowly			51 Mound stat

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 11-6



11-6 CRYPTOQUIP

E F R Q A C F S X F V Q C S F W
R W Q O S C V Q U L C Q E L Q C F T
C A N N J W S F W J O S X F T F V J R W Q S C,
L C X F Q N Q W S L C Q U Q W S L C Q U ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF THE BARD HAD A PASSION FOR DAIRY TREATS, I THINK HE'D PROBABLY BE NAMED MILK SHAKE-SPEARE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals H

coffee & the collegian
a better way to start the morning than a quiz in your 8:05 a.m. lecture

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STREET TALK

Check out the **Gameday Guide** for all the information on Saturday's game.

Q: What is going to happen at the football game Saturday?



“I think that we are going to beat KU 26 to 24.”

Derrick Schmitz
Freshman, engineering



“I think it will be a close game, and KSU will come out on top.”

Jeff Ast
Freshman, secondary education



“We will be watching football in nice weather.”

Stephanie Patterson
Sophomore, anthropology



“I think we are going to dominate because we are K-State.”

Carolyn Gatewood
Freshman, secondary education

THE PLANNER

CAMPUS BULLETIN BOARD

The City of Manhattan Parks and Recreation Department has employment opportunities for the upcoming fall/winter season. Available positions are intramural basketball official, intramural basketball scorekeeper, ice rink attendants, ice skating instructors and volunteer basketball coaches. For questions, call 785-587-2757 or visit the city's Web site at ci.manhattan.ks.us.

Rec Services is sponsoring Nutritious November. All nutrition consultations are half-price during the month of November. Stop by the office at Peters Recreation Complex to sign up. Call 785-532-6980 for more information.

Career and Employment Services is promoting Fall Education Career Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today in the K-State Student Union Ballroom. For more information, visit k-state.edu/ces.

U.S. Cellular is sponsoring a tailgate for the game against Kansas and will be giving out free prizes, including Xboxes and Zune music players, and a chance to win an all-expense paid trip for two to the 2010 national college championship game. The tailgate will be on Saturday in Student Lot 9.

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Brian Kraus at 8 a.m. Tuesday in Bluemont Hall 341D. The thesis topic is "A Descriptive Analysis of Selected Community Stakeholder Opinions Regarding Potentially Critical Factors in School Board Referenda Success or Failure in Kansas During the Years 2004-2007."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Ying Chen at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in Ackert Hall 324A. The thesis topic is "Natural Variation in Freezing Tolerance in *Arabidopsis thaliana*."

Rec Services is offering Extreme Fitness II from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Nov. 17. This is a free workshop designed for individuals looking for a full body workout challenge and is limited to 24 participants. Sign up by calling 785-532-6980.

The Planner is the Collegian's bulletin board service. To place an item in the Planner, stop by Kedzie 116 and fill out a form or e-mail news editor Sarah Rajewski at news@spub.ksu.edu by 11 a.m. two days before it is to run. Some items might not appear because of space constraints but are guaranteed to appear on the day of the activity.

QUESTION OF THE DAY

For the low-down on digital dating read **Page 6**.

Online dating is...

A) Creepy B) So-so C) Great D) How I met your mother

To submit your answer, visit kstatecollegian.com. Results for the question of the day will be posted in the following issue of the Collegian.

Thursday's results: Do you support "Don't ask, don't tell" policies?

A) Yes: 32% B) No: 68%

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SGA lists semester's efforts

Dear Editor:

I can certainly agree with the editorial staff of the Collegian that the Student Governing Association has spent a large amount of time this year working on "internal" issues, such as elections procedures and other bylaws. Personally, there are numerous other initiatives I would rather be working on Thursday nights. However, the elections procedures are not the only project SGA has been working on. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight a few of the projects we are proud of.

SGA, in collaboration with New Student Services, spearheaded the first-ever Week of Welcome (WOW). Also at K-State's first-ever pep rally, nearly 5,000 students were in attendance.

A mandatory rental inspection program passed through the Manhattan City Commission after nearly a 30-year effort; SGA played a major role in supporting and directing that legislation.

The Powercat Financial Counseling office opened this fall in the Office of Student Activities and Services, and employs one full-time staff professional. The idea for this center began as a platform of the Matt Wagner and Lydia Peele campaign, and was made a reality in the past year with funding from SGA.

The Student Body President's Advisory Board was created to increase and diversify the number of student groups represented in SGA.

The number of intersession courses offered for January 2010 has increased to more than 50, with more than 10 of these courses being offered entirely online. This is the highest number of courses ever offered during an intersession term, which was a main platform issue of Wayne's and my campaign.

Through the leadership of the Speaker of the Student Senate, Amy Schultz, great progress has been made on the plans for expanding the Recreational Center. Bids for construction and groundbreaking will take place this spring with construction scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2011.

Stemming from our Real Safety platform, SGA has begun an initiative to improve the safety of students in the community. We have been working closely with the Aggieville Safety Committee, meeting with leaders on campus and in the community and performed walk-through assessments in many neighborhoods to determine locations where lighting is non-functional or insufficient.

Later this month, we will be launching the first in a series of online chats with President Kirk Schulz to give students an exclusive chance to ask questions about issues concerning the student body.

The Long Term Tuition Strategies Committee held its first meeting a week ago, two months ahead of schedule, to take a proactive approach in examining K-State's current tuition and fee strategy. In the spring, this committee will make a recommendation about tuition and fees, keeping the best interests of students in mind.

Members of SGA have been actively involved in the budget process, reviewing more than 1,500 budget reduction or reve-

nue generation proposals.

The Governmental Relations Committee and SGA are currently developing a proposal for City-University Fund, which will allocate more than \$570,000 to projects impacting both students and the Manhattan community.

We have played a critical role in welcoming the new administration. SGA has assisted in setting priorities and guidelines that will benefit the future of K-State. In addition, SGA has been actively involved in the search for a new provost and a new vice president for communications and marketing.

SGA has worked closely with the athletics department to improve ticketing procedures, including the sale of football-only tickets and a better line-up procedure for the KU basketball game.

A proposal requiring mandatory faculty evaluations was passed through Faculty Senate due to the efforts of Speaker Schultz, giving students the opportunity to evaluate all of their professors at the end of each semester.

SGA played an active role in improving the K-State Emergency Alerts program, which includes the installation of Alertus beacons in several campus buildings.

Just this week, I started a column to keep students informed and involved with the issues happening on campus.

SGA is currently engaged in a complete redesign of its Web site to make it more user-friendly for students, and ensure they can find information about events and programs or contact us anytime at sga@k-state.edu.

SGA has already funded 35 student groups for a total of \$31,218.65 to allow them to host or attend conferences, bring in speakers and entertainers, improve their professional and self development, etc.

We have recommended more than \$360,000 in Educational Opportunity Funds for 26 campus entities to provide some of the most essential student services we can offer on campus.

The Privilege Fee committee and SGA completed the review of the Bramlage Coliseum's fee structure and approved renewed funding. The committee is currently evaluating four Student Union privilege fee accounts.

SGA brought to close the final chapter of one of the most heated disputes of last year by fulfilling our commitment to secure alternative funding for the University Marching Band in collaboration with University President's office. SGA even sponsored our very own band uniform, with a donation of \$456 from Senators and other SGA members.

Fortunately, not every issue SGA is working on requires a piece of legislation. In fact, much of our best work takes place outside our Student Senate meetings.

I hope that K-State students can rest assured that myself along with fellow SGA members, are truly working every day to improve the lives of students at K-State. Please let us know what else we can do for to help best serve you. This session is not even close to over.

-Dalton Henry
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Help support United Way

Dear Editors:

The 2009 K-State United Way fund drive, aimed at faculty and staff, began on Nov. 1. This effort is in support of the United Way of Riley County that is raising funds to help support the work of 13 local human service organizations.

These agencies touch every age, from infant to retiree, and continue to make Riley County a great place to live. They can't do it alone. They need our support. We hope everyone will include the United Way as a key part of their giving. There's no better way to do so much good and to help so many people than by supporting United Way.

In last year's campaign almost 800 of the 4,800 faculty and staff here at K-State committed to the needs of United Way. Fellow K-Staters, we can do better than this!

If every K-State employee were to only

take \$2 out of each paycheck (payroll deduction), imagine the good that will come from it. \$2 a paycheck, that's 14 cents per day. Imagine the good that someone in need will receive from your simple act of giving.

As Bill Kennedy, former Riley County Attorney and current United Way of Riley County campaign chair stated, "It does happen here."

Our community does have children and women who are victims of abuse, families do lose homes due to fire or tornado, both parents do have to work and need quality child care for their children.

Let's live United and show our community how much we care!

Bill Wisdom; K-State Student Union
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The Box PG13 4:20-7:00-9:35
Michael Jackson: This Is It PG 3:40-6:30-9:20
Saw VI R 4:10-7:40-10:00
Amelia PG 3:45-7:15-10:00
Law Abiding Citizen R 4:00-6:45-9:25
Where the Wild Things Are PG 3:55-6:50-9:30
Couples Retreat PG 4:00-7:05-9:30
Paranormal Activity R 3:50-7:30-9:50
Christmas Carol 3D PG 5:10-5:40-7:30-8:00-
9:50-10:20

Ticket prices:
Matinee, Adult or Child \$6.50
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CES gives etiquette lessons at mock interview dinner



Matt Castro | COLLEGIAN

Pat Pesci, Program Director for Hotel, Restaurant, Institutional Management and Dietetics, headed the dining etiquette dinner. He addressed questions yielded from the audience.

By Michelle Thomas
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Career and Employment Services hosted a dining etiquette banquet in order to teach students the proper way to conduct themselves at a business dinner.

"CES has put on this dinner for a number of years and is held every semester," said Ruth Huning, graduate research assistant for CES. "These skills are important during an interview, or first date, or really anytime you want to make a good impression in a dining situation. It's important to use these skills correctly to show yourself in the best possible light or even just to know how to act in a social situation."

Pat Pesci, program director for hotel, restaurant, institutional management and dietetics, was the banquet's host and gave instructions throughout the meal.

"The whole basis of this thing is to give you more confidence," Pesci said. "We want you to leave here with some social skills. We'd like to believe that K-State students are different and will be prepared."

The students gathered in the Derby Dining Center lobby and were instructed to treat the entire meal as if they were going to an interview before they were led to the Gold Room where the banquet took place.

Before even entering the banquet room, Pesci gave instructions that women were to go first, and everyone was to stand behind their chair until their table was filled. Once all six people were at the table, the students were allowed to sit down, but not touch their plates or water glasses until they made proper introductions.

The rules and tips continued through the salad and bread basket. Pesci, in addition to giving instructions, walked throughout the room answering questions and "what if" situations. The first answer was, "If you don't like salads, fake it."

Pesci also gave "deal maker" advice. This advice included asking the server's name in order to show proper respect if you needed their services throughout the rest of the night. Also, if the interviewee

is left-handed, they should acknowledge that to the recruiter and ask to sit where they would not bump elbows with someone during the meal.

Rules for ordering entrees and alcohol were: order within the same price range as others at the table and to only have one alcoholic beverage. Alcohol should only be ordered if it is an evening meal and others are also drinking.

"You can ruin your chances at a job in only two hours," Pesci said. "You just spent the last four years taking classes, probably a year and a half finding a parking spot on campus. Your résumé is great, and you feel prepared. But you'll blow it all at one interview by having too much to drink."

"If you act like a fool in front of a recruiter, there is no way he's going to give you a salary, a company car and trust you on out-of-town business when you can't even handle yourself for two hours at a reception," Pesci said.

Students at the dinner had various reasons for attending. Amanda Hogue, junior in hotel and restaurant management, said she was required to attend the event for her Survey of Hospitality class.

Others, such as Devi Shrawanthi Kallem, graduate student in computer science, came to the meal after seeing advertisements and hearing about the program through CES.

"I've been at K-State for a year and thought that coming to these types of programs is important while I'm in the country," Kallem said.

Pesci also addressed universal dining issues. He said people from Asia and Europe keep their knife and fork in their hands throughout the entire meal, whereas people from North America set down their knife after they finish cutting. Both are correct, but it is proper to place the knife on the plate when it is not in use.

The universal sign to signal the wait staff that you are finished with a course is to place the knife and fork across the plate pointing in the four o'clock position, said Pesci.

Huning said CES is planning on hosting another dining etiquette banquet sometime next semester.

Theft of \$5,480 reported

By Tyler Sharp
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

A local woman reported a theft of \$5,480 to the Riley County Police Department Wednesday, said Lt. Herbert Crosby Jr. of RCPD.

Tracey Rainwater, 29, of 2303 Can-

glewood Drive, Apt. 2, reported the loss of a wedding and engagement ring, diamond necklace, diamond bracelet, vehicle keys, prescriptions and a zip drive, Crosby said.

The theft occurred between Nov. 1 and Nov. 4 at 1524 Wreath Ave., according to the report.

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Cultural connection

Students should experience other cultures

"It's always good to try new things." You've probably heard this phrase before, most likely from your mother, but when was the last time you put it into practice? My parents always encouraged me to try new things, when I was a kid, but I was always hesitant.

What if I don't like it? What if I don't understand it?

Unbeknownst to me, I was already experiencing new things that many kids did not. My father would tell me tales of his travels in the Army: the places he'd gone, the people he'd met, the food he'd eaten. My mother encouraged my sister and I to try German food, because she is from Germany.

For a while, we lived in Fort Stewart, Ga., where I experienced a whirlwind of Southern food and culture. The Deep South, by the way, is a totally different animal from the Southern culture I had grown accustomed to from dad's Kentucky roots.

When my father retired from the Army, we moved from Fort Stewart to Wamego, and I experienced the worst culture shock of my life.

Suddenly, I found myself surrounded by non-military families, many of whom had never lived anywhere except Kansas. Nobody knew what rouladen was, there were no shark steaks to be found, and I couldn't shake the feeling of being out of place because I was used to being the only white kid in class. I felt culturally deprived.

I decided then and there that I would always try to make a point to try new things.

K-State is great because I can walk down the street and listen to conversations in a dozen different languages. I



KAREN INGRAM



Illustration by Brianna Kerwood

love the fact that I am surrounded by diversity, and that an infinite number of possible new experiences await me.

This Saturday, I'm going to a Japanese dinner at the International Student Center. I've never had tempura before, and I can't wait to try it.

On Sunday, I'm going to a free concert at the K-State Student Union to listen to a type of classical Indian music called Carnatic. I looked at photos of the instruments that will be played and I'm intrigued. A double-headed drum played sideways; I wonder what that will sound like.

You, fellow K-Staters, have a wonderful opportunity to travel around the world on one campus. You have the ability to learn just how alike all people are, no matter how different they seem upon first glance. You have the chance to learn about things you cannot even begin to dream of.

But, in order to do so, you must be willing to follow your mom's advice: always try new things. Don't be afraid

to try something new just because you think you might not like it. If you don't like it, you never have to do it again. It's that simple.

I want to try new things because I learn new things about myself. The more I learn about other people, the more I discover my own humanity. The more I learn, the more I realize how much more there is to learn out there.

It's humbling and awe-inspiring to realize how big and small the world is all at once. And yes, I sometimes get nervous, but I've discovered the more familiar I become with something strange, the less I fear it.

So the next time you have an opportunity to try something new, don't hesitate, don't wonder and don't worry.

Try it. You might learn something about yourself, too.

Karen Ingram is a sophomore in English. Please send comments opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

Political violence never acceptable

The other day I was looking through my e-mail account and came



FRANK MALE

across something from the Ad Astra Institute of Kansas. They are holding a panel discussion Nov. 8 in Lawrence's Eldridge Hotel entitled, "Political Violence in Kansas: More Effective for the Right than the Left?"

That's right, our neighbors down the river are engaging in a panel discussion on political violence. According to its Web site, Ad Astra is a "progressive think tank in a conservative state." Just how radical of an organization is it, though? Is it supporting political violence or accusing conservatives of engaging in it?

A look at the panel members fails to answer that question. First is Mark Rudd, a leader of the Students for a Democratic Society and a founding member of the Weather Underground.

If the Weather Underground sounds familiar, that's because it was an issue during the 2008

elections, when it was revealed that then-candidate Barack Obama was close friends with Bill Ayers, a prominent Weatherman and domestic terrorist.

Rudd would be an expert in domestic terrorism, I suppose. He participated in the "Days of Rage" in 1969, which left 28 riot control police officers injured, one citizen hurt and six Weathermen shot. In March 1970, Rudd went underground after three Weathermen were killed by the premature explosion of a bomb meant for a serviceman's ball.

He eventually turned himself in and "now says he was terribly wrong," said David Burress, the president of Ad Astra.

The next panel member is Jonathan Earle, University of Kansas professor of history and expert on John Brown and pre-Civil War politics. Oh yes, John Brown. The man's solution to the slavery debate was to murder five pro-slavery southerners in Pottawatomie, Kan., while they slept. They claimed it was fair game because of the 1856 sacking of Lawrence. That sacking had resulted in no deaths for the free-staters (one pro-slavery raider was killed by falling masonry). Five murders for none sounded like a fair trade to

Brown, I guess.

And honestly, who hasn't wanted to burn down Lawrence after a bad day or a football game?

We all remember from history class that John Brown's end came when he decided to take over an armory to try and start a slave revolt. As President Lincoln put it, he was a "misguided fanatic."

At this point, we have a domestic terrorist and a scholar on the foremost domestic terrorist in American history. To round off the group, we have Ad Astra's president himself, Burress.

Burress told me he is working on a paper about violence by anti-abortion activists, especially "in light of the murder of Dr. George Tiller."

Now, considering this cast and the topic, let me take a guess how the discussion will go.

The terrorist will say, "The left has never been able to achieve anything with violence. The State kept us down."

The historian will say, "John Brown and those Republicans used violence to keep slavery out of Kansas." The progressive will say, "Crazy right-wingers are out there right now killing poor, innocent abortion doctors!"

They might prove me wrong. It might be a very informed discourse on the troubles of 19th and 20th century domestic terrorism and how we'll be better in the future. I don't see it, though.

Here's how I see it: Left-wing terrorists have been out there, but now they advise presidents. Right-wing terrorists have been out there, but they are in prison, or in John Brown's case, executed and buried.

Either way, political violence is something we should all agree on, regardless of political leanings. There is no justification in our democracy for political violence. Lawrence liberals seem to think it is ok to use it, to break the law and to obstruct justice if it is for a greater cause, but only a liberal cause.

Conspiring to kill servicemen will get you invited to speak, killing Tiller will get you sent to prison and taking over an armory will send you to the gallows.

What happened to that darling liberal belief in equality of outcome?

Frank Male is a senior in political science and physics. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

Best of fourum

One day I was thinking, "Man, I love women so much." Is it possible that I love women more than I love bacon? No way, I like bacon much better.

Bacon is very tasty. Very.

Guns don't kill people. Chuck Fischer's crazy, conservative beliefs kill people.

If looks could kill ...

If we beat KU this weekend, the goalposts are coming down.

Good luck on that. If Mangino doesn't eat you, you might have a chance.

K-State girls will look a whole lot less beautiful

without hard alcohol.

Wine does wonders, just saying.

Yeah, so me and my roommate just got drunk and now we're Facebook stalking Kirk Schulz. Is that a problem?

The problem, I think, is that you called this in during the

afternoon. What did you do that night?

Hey, do you remember when I called in and said if you put me in the Fourum I would give you a rubber ducky? It was a lie. I will never give you a rubber ducky.

Well, nuts. Nuts.

THE FOURUM 785-395-4444

The Campus Fourum is the Collegian's anonymous call-in system. The Fourum is edited to eliminate vulgar, racist, obscene and libelous comments. The Collegian's editorial board selects the most relevant, humorous or entertaining comments to be printed each day. The comments are not the opinion of the Collegian nor are they endorsed by the editorial staff.

Hey, do you remember when I called in and said if you put me in the Fourum I would give you a rubber ducky? It was a lie. I will never give you a rubber ducky.

The Collegian covered the power outage in Rathbone because engineers are more important.

IFC, nice work. If you guys would only ban fraternities, life would be perfect.

Please don't talk about math teachers getting turned on by math. That's just silly.

We will not tear down the goalposts Saturday because we will beat a team that sucks. You do not tear down goalposts when you beat a team that sucks.

To the girl in culture and context: Shut up.

Baby powder chubby chaser: Are those boots for walking?

To the Topeka Jayhawk Club: Instead of vandalizing your sign next time, we'll be mature and get DUI's like your basketball team.

Is it bad when your professor tells you to be brief when you're talking in class?

Hey Emory, you owe me Wendy's. Love, Dane.

Wow, Beth Mendenhall finally has something intelligent to say. Good job.

I'm a heterosexual and I just wanted to say that the chalking in front of Bosco Plaza is absolutely wonderful. Peace out.

Hey K-State Parking Services, thanks for the handicap parking ticket, and thanks for letting me park in the same place while I paid it. Suck it.

As long as the KU billboard stands on the way to Manhattan, it will bleed purple. EMAW 'til you die.

Lactation rooms aka women's bathrooms. Duh.

Fear Bill.

Good evening, Fourum. I am watching a game of dodgeball, and apparently there's a guy without a shirt on, and you can see his panty line.

I can't wait till Saturday. I love it when the Classy Cats shake it to Chicago. Go Cats go.

We could really use some more bike racks by McCain.

I am Sailor Moon. Totally full of crap.

To the person who keeps calling into the Fourum: Nice haircut.

Fourum, I would totally get on the person who does the Fourum's voice mail. They have a good voice.

OK, Fourum, in all honesty, Christians don't really have good sportsmanship either. It's okay.

The Fourum is also available in full online every day at kstatecollegian.com.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Collegian welcomes your letters to the editor. They can be submitted by e-mail to letters@spub.ksu.edu, or in person to Kedzie 116. Please include your full name, year in school and major. Letters should be limited to 350 words. All submitted letters might be edited for length and clarity.

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

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In enemy territory

Purple pride exists in the land of crimson, blue

Ashley Dunkak
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Junior Grant Rupe is a classic example of how one passion can interfere with the pursuit of another.

Rupe began his college career at K-State, the only place he wanted to be after growing up in a family that has traveled to K-State home football games since 1993. Both his parents graduated from K-State in the late 70s.

Rupe said his parents started "dragging me and my brother to games" when the two were young. "The last thing a six-year-old and a four-year-old want to do is drive two hours to watch K-State football," Rupe said, referring to himself and his brother, Ross, now a sophomore at K-State.

The Rupes also took vacations with the team to attend bowl games. He said he did not appreciate the tradition as much as a kid, but looking back, he said it was valuable family time while growing up.

In late 2008, head coach Bill Snyder announced he would be returning as head coach of K-State football. Rupe said he was excited but had heard some negative comments from other people.

"The guy was obviously a savior at K-State," Rupe said of Snyder. "The K-State fan base needed to remember what he did for K-State football."

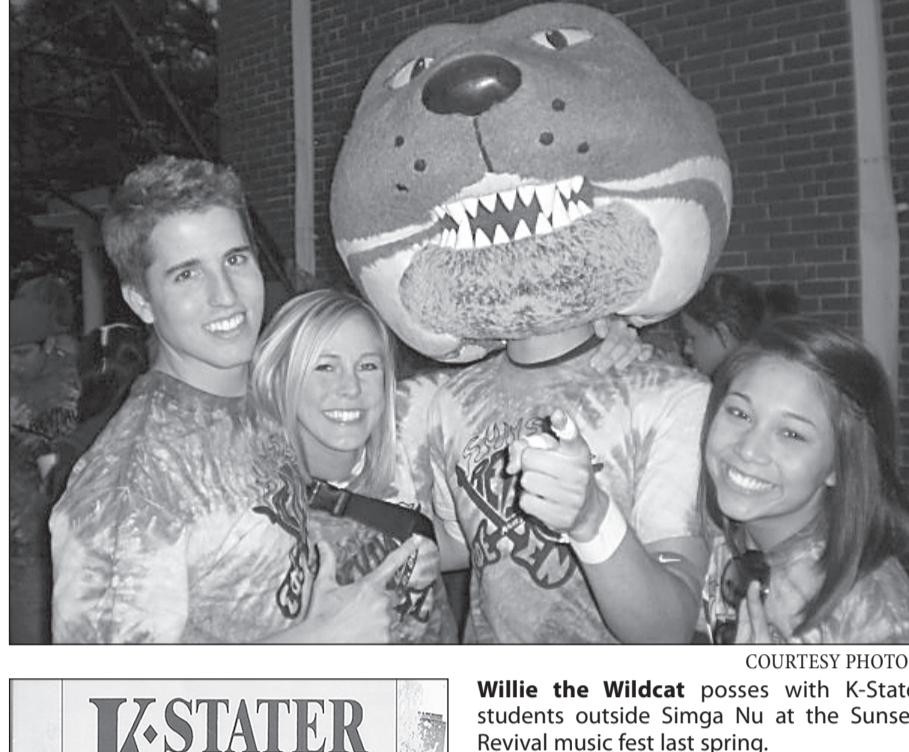
Rupe set out to remind them. He spent from mid-January of 2009 to early May working on a video, he said. He collected and organized footage from KAKE news station in Wichita and edited it. The video, "Snyderman Returns," is about seven minutes long and has over 25,000 hits on YouTube.com.

"That video just gives us all goosebumps whenever we watch it," said Matt Newman, senior in finance and a friend of Rupe.

So Rupe was raised to be a Wildcat. A problem arose, however, when he discovered what he actually wanted to do with his life: be a well-respected feature film director. K-State does not have a program in that area.

Rupe came anyway. He stayed for a year and a half with an undecided major and loved the school, but he realized staying would not help him toward his goal.

In middle school, he and one of his



COURTESY PHOTOS

Willie the Wildcat poses with K-State students outside Sigma Nu at the Sunset Revival music fest last spring.



best friends, Alex Brand, who is now a senior in film production at the University of Kansas, started making movies on a digital camera after their summer plan for a lawn-mowing business fell through.

Rupe said it was something to keep them out of trouble. They messed around with a camera and then bought editing software, he said. That hobby quickly grew into a passion, one Rupe would not stray from all through high school.

He and Brand interned at the KAKE television station his senior year in high school and got to know Allen Shote, the sports director there. That would be important later on, as the connection there provided sports footage for "Snyderman Returns." He also did an internship at Digital Brand in the summer of 2007. This past summer he went to California and interned at Southpaw Productions.

It was after the Digital Brand internship that Rupe knew what he had to do if he wanted to pursue filmmaking.

"I had to put away my animosity for KU and bite the bullet and do it," he said.

He transferred to KU.

He got a lot of flak, and still does, from his K-State friends for making the switch. Newman said at first he told Rupe he could not be his friend anymore, as did most of his friends, but eventually they got used to it.

"He's got to chase his dream, I guess," Newman said. "If I were him I'd probably change dreams. I'd never go to KU."

See PRIDE, Page 8

Volleyball looks to continue success Sunday

Sam Nearhood
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The K-State volleyball team will return to action Sunday against Texas Tech, capping a two-match stint at home.

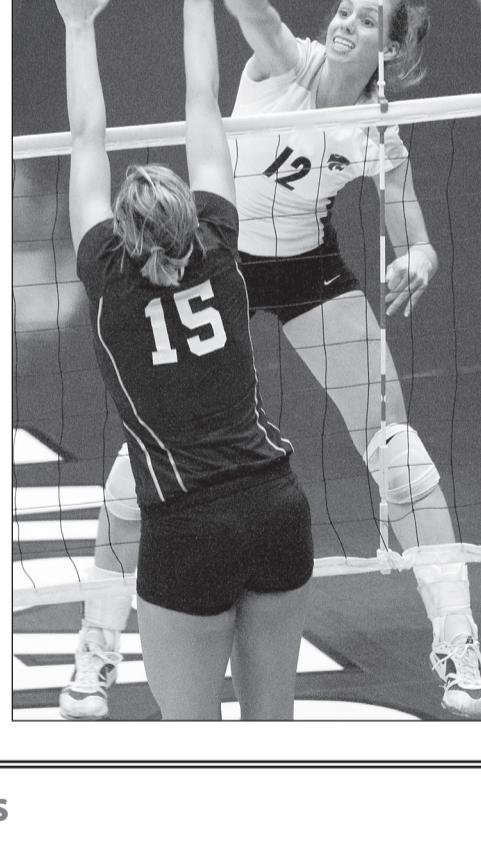
The teams were originally slated to play in September, but Texas Tech was forced to reschedule following a bout of flu that hit six players, according to a news release from Texas Tech.

K-State has defeated Texas Tech in 15 of the last 17 meetings, highlighted by an eight-match winning streak from 2005 that remains unbroken. The Red Raiders have won only once in Ahearn Field House.

The Wildcats (9-14, 3-10 Big 12 Conference) upset No. 23 Texas A&M Wednesday night in Manhattan in a five-game match. Senior middle blocker Kelsey Chipman said the match ranked in the top three of her favorite matches at K-State, adding that the win was long overdue.

"It's so great to finally play to our potential," Chipman said. "It would have been really easy to shut the door, but we kept going and kept pushing and never gave up, and so I was really proud of everyone."

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 8



Junior outside hitter JuliAnne Chisholm spikes the ball against Texas A&M Wednesday in Ahearn Field House.

Nathaniel LaRue COLLEGIAN

COLLEGIAN STAFF PICKS



Kirk Schulz
33-21



Grant Guggisberg
34-20



Aaron Weiser
30-24



Joel Aschbrenner
33-21



Justin Nutter
30-18



The Readers
19-5



The Readers
19-5

Navy at No. 22 Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame
Texas A&M at Colorado	Colorado	Texas A&M				
Kansas at K-State	K-State	K-State	K-State	K-State	K-State	K-State
No. 9 LSU at No. 3 Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	LSU	Alabama	Alabama
No. 16 Ohio State at No. 11 Penn State	Ohio State	Penn State				
No. 24 Oklahoma at Nebraska	Nebraska	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma

Wildcats building confidence

By Grant Guggisberg
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The K-State men's basketball team will open up its season with a home exhibition game against the Pittsburg State Gorillas Sunday at 3 p.m.

After last year's season ended in a second-round NIT loss, the Wildcats add five freshmen and a junior college transfer to a team that retains most of its top performers. Head coach Frank Martin said he is happy to see his returning players develop consistency and learn what it takes to compete at K-State.

"You work really hard to try and get the guys that you recruit to fit your style of play and personality

See BASKETBALL, Page 8

GUEST COLUMN

KU looking to rebound this weekend

As the Big 12 Conference football season continues, the Collegian will feature a weekly column by a writer from the opposing school's publication. This week's column is by Alex Beecher of Kansas' student newspaper, the University Daily Kansan.

The season hasn't been good, and everyone knows it. The harder question to answer is "why?"

Why has Kansas played such



ALEX BEECHER

underwhelming football thus far, and who is to blame? It is tricky to answer the questions with any degree of certainty.

Perhaps Todd Reesing, injury or no, is to blame. One expects better play from a third-year

starting quarterback – especially as many consider Reesing to be the most productive quarterback in the school's history. But then again, maybe it's too easy to lay the blame at the star quarterback's feet.

Maybe Reesing and Kansas' barely-there running game would have performed better were they functioning behind a more experienced offensive line. However, the offense has still enjoyed a certain measure of success this year, which makes them hard to blame.

So perhaps we ought to look to the secondary or the linebacking corps. There, one will find no shortage of scapegoats. Any member of the secondary not named Darrell Stuckey has moved – either up or down on the depth chart, or into a different position altogether. The linebacking corps is a similar hodgepodge, constructed of players who are too young, too new to the position or lacking some vital physical trait.

Yet is this the fault of the players? The jumble in the ranks might lead one to blame the assistant coaches. After all, isn't it the job of the coaches to formulate strategy and to recruit players with whom that strategy can be successfully executed?

Perhaps the buck shouldn't stop until it reaches the desk of Mark Mangino. The head coach has ultimate control and thus ultimate responsibility. Yet it seems unlikely that he just forgot how to coach. This is the same man, after all, who resurrected the corpse that was Kansas football.

So where should the blame lie?

Perhaps the only reasonable conclusions are "Who cares?" and "Why bother?" What is done is done, after all. No amount of finger pointing or demonizing will lift Kansas past Colorado, Oklahoma or Texas Tech.

No, the only real question right now is how Kansas will react to this taste of adversity. Will the team fold? Will the team cap a disappointing three-game stretch with more losses? Or, alternatively, will Kansas rebound and make a push for the Big 12 North Title? Whatever the case may be, the answer to those questions – and thus, the only answer of consequence – will begin to take shape this Saturday.

Alex Beecher is junior in journalism at the University of Kansas who writes for the University Daily Kansan.

Online love?

Online dating; new meeting place?

By Reyna Lay
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

"My favorite food is Chinese. I like being outdoors and enjoy long walks on the beach."

This is often considered a cliché self-description for an online dating site, but how many people actually use these sites?

According to *Onlinedatingmagazine.com*, 31 percent of American adults know someone who has used an online dating Web site, and more than 20 million people visit one or more dating sites each month.

"Online dating is more straightforward than the real world," said Amy Hunt, sophomore in elementary education. "People tell you if they're interested or not. If they are, you chat with them and get to know them better. If not, you move on to the next person."

Hunt met her current boyfriend through *OKCupid.com*, an online dating and social Web site that features member-created quizzes and several different ways of communication, such as blogs, texts, instant messaging and even "winks," a way of telling someone you are interested without having to write anything.

"I couldn't meet people interested in me in the real world," Hunt said. "A month after joining the site, I met my boyfriend Derek."

When Hunt first joined the site, she said she was nervous even though she knew she was going to use it. Hunt said she heard several negative things about online dating before she used it, but after talking to her parents about it, she decided it was worth a try.

She also made sure to use basic precautions, such as only meeting people for the first time in public places, where she felt safe when

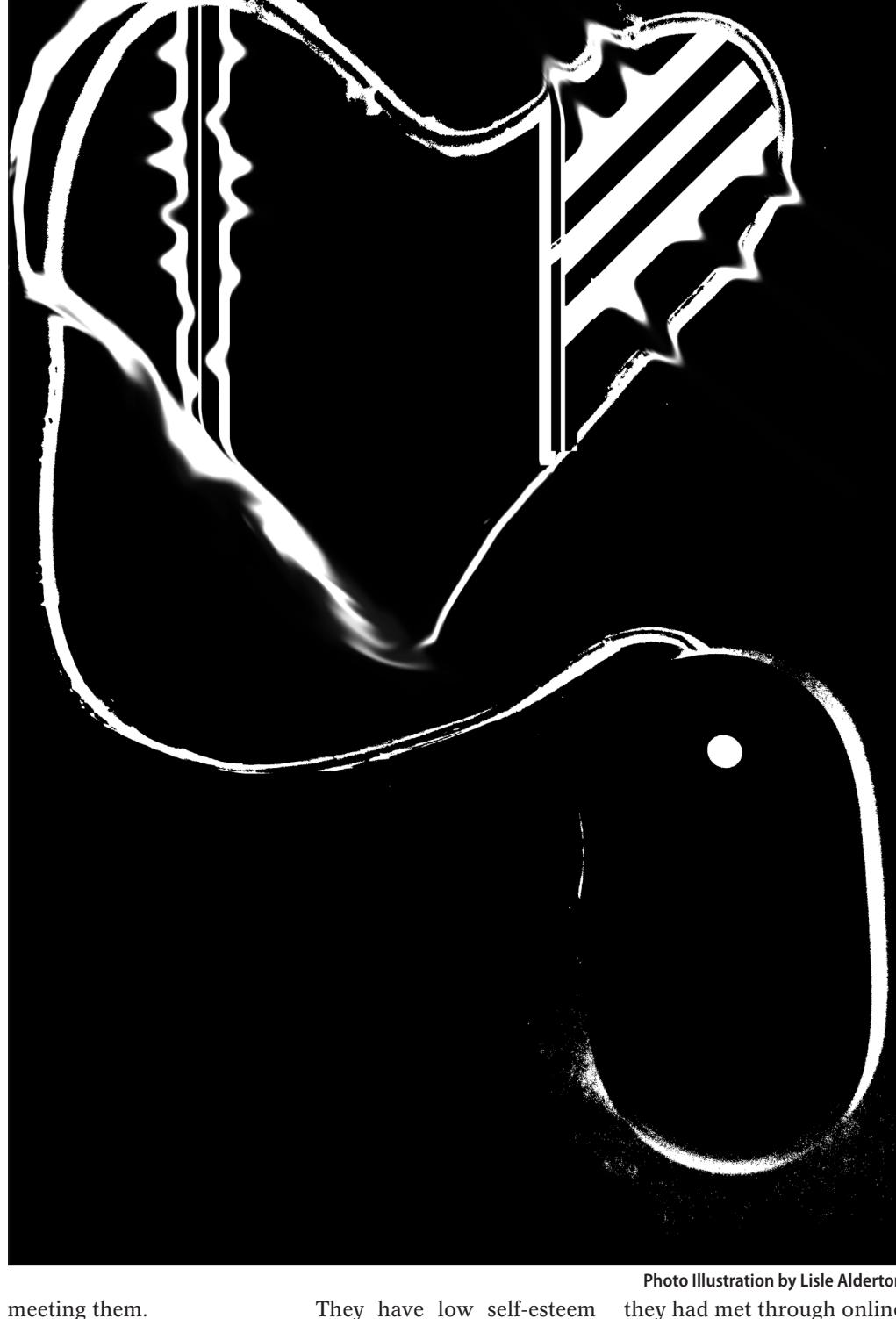


Photo illustration by Lisle Alderton

meeting them. Azsha Thompson, freshman in business administration, said her concerns about online dating keep her away from it.

"Anyone can edit their pictures, and there can be crazy people out there," Thompson said. "You never know who you are talking to ... they could be lying to you, and you wouldn't even know."

Po Sen Chu, psychology professor and graduate student in psychology, said people are drawn to online dating for two main reasons:

They have low self-esteem and poor social skills or want to pretend to be someone else.

According to *PCWorld.com*, 10 percent of new accounts created each day are created as scams. There are horror stories all over the media from people who have had bad experiences on their first "online-to-real-world" date. Thomas F. Currier and Shawn Hutchins of Hampton Falls, N.H., are just one example. The cousins were charged in August 2008 for separate acts of drugging and raping women

they had met through online dating, according to *Seacoastonline.com*.

"There are many people out there who are psycho and they just want to take advantage of people, so they lie to get what they want," Chu said.

Though online dating is becoming more acceptable, some still stick to the "good old ways." Antoinette Mason, freshman in open option, said she would rather date someone she met in person or she met through a friend because "at least then you know they're safe."

Transgender therapy coming to K-State

By Hannah Loftus
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The Marriage and Family Therapy program at K-State is starting a new specialized treatment team, called the Transgender Therapy Team.

The program will train students in the MFT master's and doctoral programs to provide therapy services to transgender individuals and individuals who are questioning their gender.

Joyce Baptist, assistant professor of family studies and human services, will oversee the training. She said the program will be headed by two second-year MFT doctoral students who are well-trained in the area. The goal is to train the therapists to provide transgender-sensitive treatment.

Baptist said it is challenging for people to be "out" as a transgender in the community.

"Oftentimes that person is very sheltered and it doesn't help that there are no specialized treatments and services for transgenders or anyone who is questioning their gender," Baptist said. "This program will equip us to outreach to the transgender community in Manhattan and its surrounding areas."

Baptist said there was a major gap in the Manhattan community for transgender specialized treatment.

"I was really surprised that there wasn't another program like this in the community," said Marjorie Strachman Miller, an MFT doctoral student. "I thought this kind of thing would be really helpful because transgenders often get overlooked; often times they are all lumped in with the LGBTQ community."

The idea to start the training came from Marjorie Strachman Miller, graduate student in marriage and family therapy, when she noticed a lack of services in the community for this type of therapy. She said transgenders are in a special situation compared to the entire lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning community because there might be medical issues associated with a sexual reassignment surgery, such as hormones or other treatments.

"Oftentimes a therapist is in a position of power because they often do the eval-



Campus Creek Complex, located behind Justin Hall, is home to a new program called the Transgender Therapy Program. It was created by K-State students and its goal is to help transgendered individuals.

ation of a client before they proceed with their sexual reassignment surgery," Strachman Miller said. "The therapist often has to sign off on their evaluation."

Rebecca Culver Turner, an MFT doctoral student, said there are a different set of circumstances surrounding transgenders and each person's experience is unique. She said training will build more awareness surrounding the factors that affect transgenders and people who are questioning their genders.

Turner is helping Strachman Miller get the training started so it will have maximum effectiveness. She is helping to gather resources and is coming up with different ideas.

However, the curriculum is still in the beginning stages of development. Baptist estimates the training will start sometime in the spring and will be completely voluntary, meaning MFT students can choose to participate and be trained to work as therapists

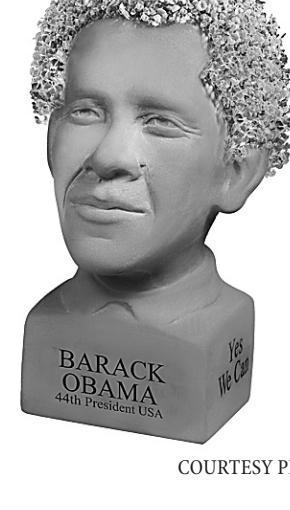
with transgenders.

The training will focus on reducing transphobia, providing information on transgenderism and sexual reassignment surgery and training therapists to transgender-sensitive appropriate treatment, Baptist said.

Strachman Miller said the program will include presentations from other professionals such as Joyce Woodford, a counselor from the K-State Counseling Services. The training will include both didactic and clinical experience.

The clinical training is exclusive for graduate students enrolled in the MFT program. It will not be open to the public. However, the team is considering doing an awareness day and encourages the public refer friends and family who are questioning their gender to seek services at the K-State Family Center. The center offers a range of therapeutic services to the community, which is another effort to provide an inclusive environment.

Stores offer laughs for customers



COURTESY PHOTO

By Melissa Short
K-STATE COLLEGIAN

Barack Obama Chia Pet, toilet-shaped coffee mug, seven-foot-tall inflatable elephant – all these things come together on the Web site *PrankPlace.com*, a site specializing in gag gifts, pranks and other generally silly things.

The Web site offers everything from a six-pack beer holster to bacon-decorated wrapping paper, all at reasonable prices that fit college students' strict budgets. Jason Nocera, creative director of Outrageous Ventures Inc., *PrankPlace.com*'s parent company, said the site began in 1996 as a joke.

Steve Wampold, owner of the company, had a boring corporate job, Nocera said in an e-mail interview.

"To spice things up, he thought of a gag to play on the vice president. He printed out a magnetic bumper sticker with the words 'I Love Porn' and placed it on the back of his bumper.

"It was such a big hit that he started making more, and as time went on, it grew into *PrankPlace.com*. The prank bumper sticker is still a favorite."

Nocera said for Halloween the most popular costume was "The Shocker," a costume in the shape of a hand giving the "shocker" gesture. He also said the "Fanny Bank," a backside shaped coin bank that toots when money is added, is very popular, along with a toilet-shaped coffee mug and the foul smelling "Liquid Ass" spray.

Nocera said the Web site's most consistently popular item are its Prank Lottery Tickets.

"Especially in this economy, it can be a pretty cruel joke," Nocera said. "They're scratch off tickets that look real and it seems like you just won 10,000 or more dollars."

Nocera said there are many videos on *YouTube.com* of people falling for this joke, something he says is "just painful to watch." For example, one woman was jumping up and down at her corporate Christmas party thinking she had won the lottery.

According to the site, it offers a newsletter to customers that includes special deals and coupons and has a daily prize drawing for those who follow the Web site on *Twitter.com* or *Facebook.com*.

Nocera said the Web site also has a drawing each week where a person who is a fan of the Web site on Facebook is picked to receive their entire order free.

The Web site coordinators are looking for new products, even from people who do not necessarily have experience in novelty gifts but think they have a good idea. The creative team only asks that the person send in a sample, pricing and availability of the product to their offices for consideration.

Another store closer to home that is known for its gag gifts and novelties is Acme Gift, located in Aggierville.

"The idea for the store stemmed from the owner's love of flowers, then she got into novelty gifts and that spawned into what Acme is today," said Jenny Willis, manager of the store.

Acme Gift opened in 2003 and soon became known for its flower arrangements and interesting gifts.

"Right now our head massagers and new pint glasses are really popular, along with our animal-inspired winter hats. We even have a sock monkey hat," Willis said. "Our T-shirts are always big sellers as well."

Willis said while the store did not have actual Halloween costumes for sale, they offered nerd glasses, a "macho man hairy chest," fake mustaches and vintage masks.

In troubling economic times, the success of these stores shows that people appreciate jokes and can always use a good laugh.

Couple finds their love has grown over time

By Elena Buckner
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

"Oh, well, we just kind of walked into that one," said Beth Olson, explaining how she and her husband, Ted Olson, became the first couple to wed in K-State's Danforth Chapel. The two married several years after they both graduated from K-State, so Danforth Chapel became a natural location to invite friends and family for the wedding, Beth said.

The Olsons celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Oct. 28, and Beth said she is more in love with Ted now than ever before.

The Olsons' story over spans several important events in American and world history, beginning with World War II. After graduating from K-State with a degree in chemical engineering, Ted enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a Frogman. The Frogmen were a precursor to today's U.S. Navy SEALs. Ted served in the South Pacific during the war and returned to K-State to obtain his master's degree. He received his master's in chemical engineering and stayed to teach at the university.

Beth also attended K-State and graduated with a degree in home economics. After graduating, Beth worked for the United States Department of Agriculture Extension Service, which she described as a branch that helped farming families before and after the war.

Although the couple knew each other as undergraduates, Ted said it was not until after he came back from the war that they "got more



Ted and Beth Olson sit together in the summer of 2009. Friends and family of the couple say they often sit with their arms around each other and act like they just met.

acquainted." They met again at the Avalon Ballroom in Manhattan, when both showed up to an event with different dates. Beth was then working in Kansas City, Kan., and Ted was teaching at K-State, so Beth said she did not expect anything to come of the reunion.

"I wasn't really wanting to get proposed to," she said, when asked about how their relationship started.

Ted was persistent, however, sending flowers and making frequent visits to Kansas City to visit her until, as Beth said, his enthusiasm was enough to convince her to marry him.

Family members and friends of the Olson family often describe Ted

as the quiet one in the relationship, and he stayed true to form when describing why he decided to propose to Beth.

When asked what made him know he wanted to marry Beth, his response was simple: "Well, what didn't, honey?"

Beth was more verbose with her response to the same question: She said Ted fulfilled one of her deepest prayers. Beth said she had asked God to find her someone she could live with for the rest of her life, because she did not want her marriage to end in divorce, and she knew she would argue with anyone if given the chance.

"My husband is kind of a quiet person," Beth said. "He has been

so steady and never gets mad ... He's just a wonderful person and I've grown more and more in love with him. It's just gotten better as we get older."

Beth said their marriage has not always been easy, and sometimes she feared it might be over. Each time, however, they managed to overcome their hurdles. Despite struggles, both Beth and Ted agree their marriage has been strengthened through their relationships with God, and he is one of the main reasons it has lasted 60 years.

The Olsons' daughter, Jo Ann Helweg, said watching her parents interact with each other and with God had a great effect on the way she conducts her relationship with her husband.

"They are always putting their arms around each other or just looking at each other, and you can just tell they love each other," Helweg said. "It's like they're still 20 or 30."

Helweg said she finds herself mimicking those actions and believes if more couples did so, more marriages would stand the test of time.

Throughout their marriage, the Olsons have found ways to focus on what they consider most important and fully commit themselves to their marriage. They love and appreciate each other for their strengths and are happy to celebrate them.

"Beth is a beautiful woman," Ted said. "But I think her cookies are probably my favorite thing about her: They're terrific."

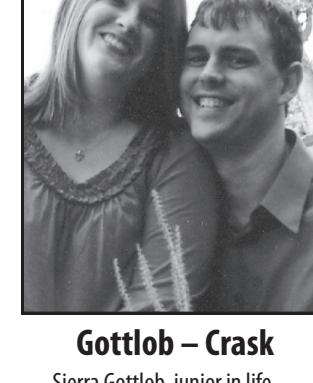


Verhaeghe – Heinrich

Ellen Verhaeghe, junior in biology and pre-veterinary medicine, and Matthew Heinrich, senior in computer science, announce their engagement.

Ellen is the daughter of Michael George and Lorretta Verhaeghe, Paola, Kan., and Matthew is the son of Larry and Anne Heinrich, Berryton, Kan.

They plan a June 26 wedding in Topeka, Kan.



Gottlob – Crask

Sierra Gottlob, junior in life sciences, and Brett Crask, senior in architectural engineering announce their engagement.

Sierra is the daughter of Andrew and Leah Gottlob, Girard, Kan., and Brett is the son of Randell and Ann Crask, Girard, Kan.

They plan a May 22 wedding at the Countryside Christian Church in Pittsburg, Kan.



Leisy – Neihart

Rachael Leisy, senior in family studies and human services, and Jim Neihart, senior in mechanical and nuclear engineering, announce their engagement.

Rachael is the daughter of Bruce and Llinois Leisy, Leawood, Kan., and Jim is the son of Bob and Jane Neihart, Overland Park, Kan.

They plan a May 29 wedding at Christ Anglican Church in Kansas City.

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Couple celebrates their marriage daily

By Katie Morford
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

In Dr. Bob and Mary Taussig's stone house, African masks adorn the walls and a warm, gold-toned kitchen is covered with photos of their seven children, 35 grandchildren and 44 great-grandchildren.

Bob, 86, said because he grew up on a remote ranch in the Colorado mountains, he was a contrast to Mary's propriety.

"I entered Wheaton in fall of 1940," he said. "A cowboy with no culture."

After Bob introduced himself, Mary said, she "pursued him relentlessly."

Bob seemed much less enthusiastic.

"She was sophisticated," he said. "I didn't know how to do anything."

Mary, 86, used the fact that she lived in the dorm containing the college cafeteria to orchestrate frequent meals with Bob and his friends. Only years later did she reveal her secret.

"Every night we had dinner together by happenstance," Mary said, giggling. "It was God. Why else would I look at this boy and try to get a date?"

Her persistence paid off. On June 24, 1945, they were married.

"I chose Bob," Mary said. "The Lord, he knew that he was the only man for my life."

Bob was careful to give God the credit for bringing and keeping the couple together.

"Here we are, looking a bit old and worn," he said. "But God has led us on some wonderful pathways."



Bob and Mary Taussig, 86, joke with each other in their house located off Fairview Avenue.

These pathways have led them to a veterinary practice in Sioux Springs, Iowa, a teaching position in veterinary medicine at K-State, a stint as a bush vet to a Nigerian tribe and back to a teaching position at K-State. The Taussigs also founded K-State's Navigators chapter and Helping International Students.

"My parents were incredibly hospitable and really served the community and were a tremendous example to me," said Mark Taussig, the couple's sixth child, who works for K-State. "They still want to have people over and serve them a meal."

Mary said Bob has always cho-

sen someone to mentor as well. "My marriage is always a part of me, and my marriage is how I try to help that man," Bob said. "It's been a real delight to see how people respond to a marriage based on real love."

Jeremy Bennett, senior in construction science and management, said he meets with other young men at the Taussigs' house.

"It gives me encouragement," he said. "I know a marriage like that is possible if you stick with it."

Bennett said the couple's relationship is "radically different" from most he sees.

"The relationship is not what he can get from her," Bennett said.

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Bennett said the couple's relationship is "radically different" from most he sees.

"The relationship is not what he can get from her," Bennett said.

"It's what he can do for her."

Between their differing backgrounds, the difficulties of raising seven children and Mary's straightforward honesty, the Taussigs encountered plenty of challenges in their marriage.

"I've learned to appreciate Mary's strength," Bob said. "I think she's learned to appreciate the fact that I love her."

Bob said a good marriage doesn't just happen.

"You'll discover you can sleep in the same bed, use the same facilities in the kitchen and be alone," he said. "Togetherness doesn't have anything to do with proximity."

The Taussigs have many stories of things they have done together, Bennett said, explaining that they "love to create memories together."

Bob described looking at a beautiful sunset and the Grand Tetons in Wyoming with Mary and knowing they both felt the same awe.

"It's something that we see that is unusual or special, and it's a memory we make together," he said.

As they faced growing older, the two knew each of these moments could be their last. They now celebrate their anniversary every month. Mary said Bob has a love note waiting for her when she wakes up.

"He's always pursuing her, even after he's been married to her," Bennett said. "He's been pursuing her his whole life."

That fact does not seem likely to change for the remainder of their lives, however long they may have together.

"Their marriage is like a diamond in the rough," Bennett said. "Everyone wants a marriage like that."



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LOAN | Students should avoid overborrowing, keep steady income while in school

Continued from Page 1

He said the federal government increased borrowing eligibility by an additional \$2,000 a year to meet students' financial needs.

Moeder said he believes this eligibility increase could attribute to some of the loan default rate increase. He said the number of students taking out private loans has increased as well.

Destinee Parker, sophomore in social work, said she had to take out loans to cover basic living expenses. She said she had a job earlier this semester but was forced to quit because she did not have enough time to study.

"You can say I am struggling right now without a job," Parker said. "But I have to do well in my classes to get scholarships."

FinAid.org, a financial aid information source, reports that two-thirds of graduates at four-year universities exit college with loan debt. The average debt of a college graduate now is \$20,000.

Student loans more than doubled in the past decade, from \$41 billion to \$85 billion, according a 2008 report by the College Board, a non-profit organization of colleges, universities and other educational institutions.

The nonprofit College Savings Foundation's latest survey indicated the number of parents who believe student loans will be necessary to help pay for higher education of their children increased to 47 percent from 37 percent the previous year.

MAKING SMARTER MONEY DECISIONS

The No. 1 reason why students default on student loans is overborrowing, according to *FinAid.org*.

Henry said one of the main reasons Powercat Financial Counseling, a free service available for students on the bottom level of the K-State Student Union, was opened this semester was to address the lack of awareness regarding student loans.

Jodi Kaus, program director for Powercat Financial Counseling, said the economy is a huge factor in student-loan defaulting.

"There are students who come in my office every day struggling to find jobs," Kaus said. "Their parents are struggling and they are finding themselves in a much different situation."

She said before students take out loans, they need to consider their first post-graduation job take-home pay and compare that to monthly loan payments. If that number is more than half of the expected salary then other options should be considered.

"Students are not going through the entire financial analysis of taking out loans," Kaus said. "They just check the box and say 'Yes, I need the money.'"

She said just because a certain amount is offered does not mean students should take the entire amount out.

"I am seeing a huge need for this type of service," Kaus said. "There

are students coming in who can't afford real need basic life essentials."

FINDING WELL-PAYING JOBS DURING A RECESSION

"The goal is to keep our students employed and, in turn, help keep those default rates low," Henry said. "If you go out and don't get the job you wanted, or it's not going to pay as much as you thought, it's going to be especially hard to pay that money back."

He credited K-State's Career and Employment Services for preparing students, aiding them in finding good jobs and ultimately helping keep the default rate down.

Kerri Day Keller, CES director, said students need to do a lot of research before choosing a major and career.

"Students need to seek advice and input so they can make an informed decision," she said.

Keller also said students should look into jobs in the nonprofit sector that have loan deferment and waiver programs coming through the federal government.

Henry said although K-State's default rate has increased from past years, being below the national average shows K-State is still placing graduates. He said graduates went out and found well-paying jobs, and even in the down economy, K-State still placed the majority of students who graduated last year.

"If we continue to turn out valuable students, they will continue to be able to pay off those loans," Henry said.

HOW TO AVOID DEFAULTING

1 Borrow as little as possible. If your total debt will be more than twice your expected starting salary, you are borrowing too much and should consider attending a less expensive college. Live like a student while you are in school so you do not have to live like a student after you graduate.

2 Make sure you understand your options and responsibilities before taking out a loan.

3 Prepare a checklist of all your loans, including the name and phone number of the lender, the type of loan, the amount of the loan, the interest rate and especially any due dates or deadlines.

4 Make your payments on time.

5 Notify your lender or servicer promptly of any changes that might affect the repayment of your loan.

6 If you encounter temporary financial difficulties, consider applying for a deferment or forbearance on your loans. It is better to defer your payments than to go into default.

7 If you are having trouble making payments due to a more permanent income deficit, your lender may be able to suggest alternate repayment options, such as extended repayment, graduated repayment, income-sensitive repayment, income contingent repayment and income-based repayment. Income-based repayment will typically have the lowest monthly payment.

8 Consider using a consolidation loan to combine all of your educational loans into one big loan. This lets you send your payments to just one lender.

9 Keep careful records regarding your loans. Put copies of all your letters, canceled checks, promissory notes, notices of disbursement and other forms in a file folder. Record your payments and the date you mailed or made the payment.

10 If you have both federal and private education loans and can afford to make the required payments on only one loan, try to avoid defaulting on the federal loans.

- <http://www.finaid.org/loans/default.html>

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SALINA | New rec center built through donations

Continued from Page 1

show movies on the wall of the gymnasium.

The 33,000 square-foot facility has a variety of work out areas, including a basketball court, racquetball and handball courts, a cardiovascular area, free weights, aerobic and fitness areas, a running track, lounge area and a computer station.

White said the Cessna Aircraft was the biggest corporate donor to the construction of the new center. He said the commitment was made five years ago when plans for the new center were first being discussed.

"It was certainly the right thing to do and I think it will make a vast improvement to the K-State at Salina campus because it is so modern and attractive," White said. "Hopefully it will attract more students to come here. Our donation was a good way to say thank you to the college. We have recruited several students to come and work at our company over the past several years."



Chelsy Lueh | COLLEGIAN
Dennis Kuhlman, dean of the College of Technology and Aviation shoots a few hoops with K-State at Manhattan President, Kirk Schulz; each were trying to make the first basket at the new Rec Center that held a ribbon cutting Thursday.

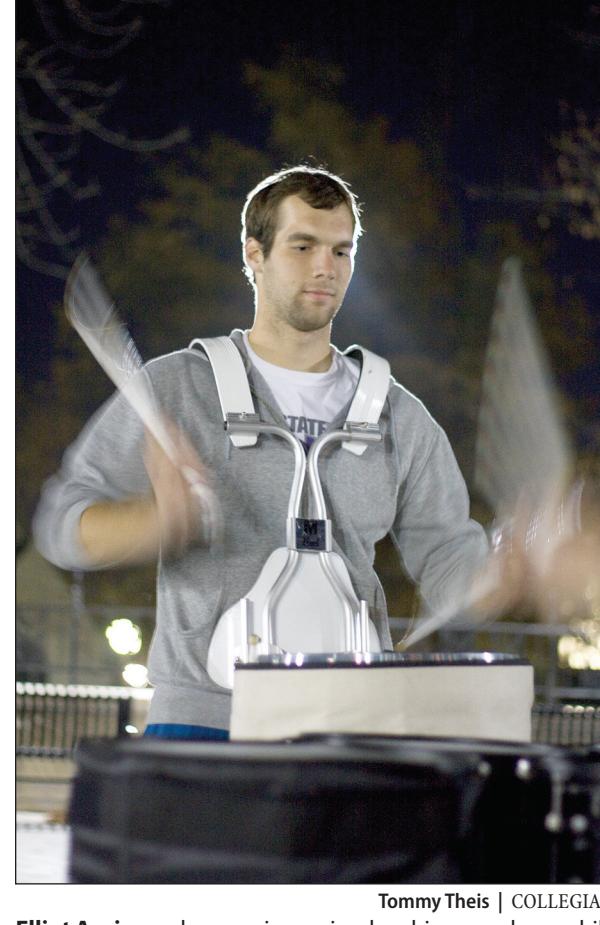
White said Cessna's relationship with the College of Technology and Aviation has spanned 22 years.

"We are proud of the relationship we have with K-State and we hope to carry and continue that relationship into the future," White said.

President Schulz said

the new recreation center is the beginning of what K-State at Salina will look like in the future. "It is amazing to see how large the donor base is for K-State at Salina, it is clear to see there is a large amount of support for the K-State family just by walking around this new facility and looking at the names on all the donor plaques," Schulz said. "However this is clearly Dennis Kuhlman's drive and his outlook and this could not have happened without him. We are definitely excited about the new facilities and what it means for the college."

Snare shot



Tommy Theis | COLLEGIAN
Elliot Arpin, sophomore in music, plays his snare drum while practicing outside McCain Auditorium.

CLUB | Club helps market Royals, Chiefs

Continued from Page 1

try to get our numbers up," said Daniel Oppy, senior in marketing. "We are a very brand new club; this is our first year so there are no dues. It is a great time to join. We are open to all majors."

Oppy said the club has helped several major sports organizations, including the Kansas City Royals. The club received free tickets af-

ter doing some marketing for the Royals.

"It was really a great opportunity for us; it was almost like a mini-internship," Wolfe said. "We are currently in talks with the Kansas City Chiefs to help them with marketing."

The club meets at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and has 15 members. The organization also has a page on *Facebook.com*.

Upcoming events for the club include helping U.S. Cellular at the K-State game on Saturday at its tailgate party. Club members are also planning a hometown heroes basketball game at a women's basketball game in January. The game is scheduled to feature the Riley County Police Department, Emergency Medical Services and the Manhattan Fire Department.

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Comeback kid



Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN

Senior running back **Keithen Valentine** runs past defenders in the second half of the win 62-14 win over Texas A&M. Despite being in a backup role, Valentine has run for 362 yards and six touchdowns so far this season.

Valentine thankful for second chance under Snyder

By Ashley Dunkak
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Last season, senior running back and former walk-on Keithen Valentine started the first few games but was later dropped on the depth chart and did not see many carries. This season, he was back as the starter in the spring until junior running back Daniel Thomas came in, forcing him into the backup role once again.

"I'm just thankful," Valentine said. "I thank God that I have a shot to be out there playing. I thank God that they trust me to be out there and help the team. First string, second string, they give me a chance to play and I just take in every moment."

Last weekend in the loss against Oklahoma, Valentine scored two touchdowns.

"When we started off it was a little scary, but we went in at halftime and Coach said, 'Don't give up. We need a spark. We need people to come out and play. Let's start off with a touchdown and get another one.'

Valentine said he wanted to score more and more for the team. He said it was a great atmosphere, and it was fun, but they did not get the win, so it was, as always, bittersweet,

when one scores two touchdowns but does not get a victory.

"I was upset after," Valentine said. "But we've just got to build on everything we do and learn from our mistakes."

Valentine said coming into college he did not understand the benefits of home-field advantage, but he certainly does now, as the Wildcats are 4-0 at Snyder Family Stadium.

"We credit that to our fans," Valentine said. "I think our fans really get us over that hump, and I'm thankful that we have the next two out of three at home. That's going to be really helpful."

Junior offensive lineman Wade Weibert said Valentine is a fun guy to have on the team. He said the team calls him 'Big Back,' just to give him a hard time for being so

small.

"Keithen has this joke that he always tries to use really big words," Weibert said.

"It's pretty funny be-

cause he just makes jokes

at all the right times and

knows how to lighten the

mood."

Weibert said Valentine is the perfect complemen-

tary back. He said Valentine comes in, knows how to pick up the need-

ed yards and reads blocks

well.

Senior offensive line-

man Nick Stringer said

off the field, Valentine is

a very motivational guy

with a lot of great spir-

it, which he brings to the

practice field that helps

the team.

Valentine, who hails

from Baton Rouge, La., began playing foot-

ball at the age of 9 because he saw his old-

er stepbrother playing several sports and

thought he could do that too. In high school

he participated in track, basketball and other "regular sports," he said.

"When one sport's over, the next one comes up," he said.

Valentine said out of high school he did not qualify on time, so he ended up attending a junior college: Mississippi Delta. He sat out a semester because of Hurricane Katrina before going there.

"I did okay, but I hurt myself every other game," Valentine said of that first season, which included problems with his ham-

string.

His second season, Valentine earned MVP honors in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges All-Star game. After that, he began looking for new opportunities, which included K-State.

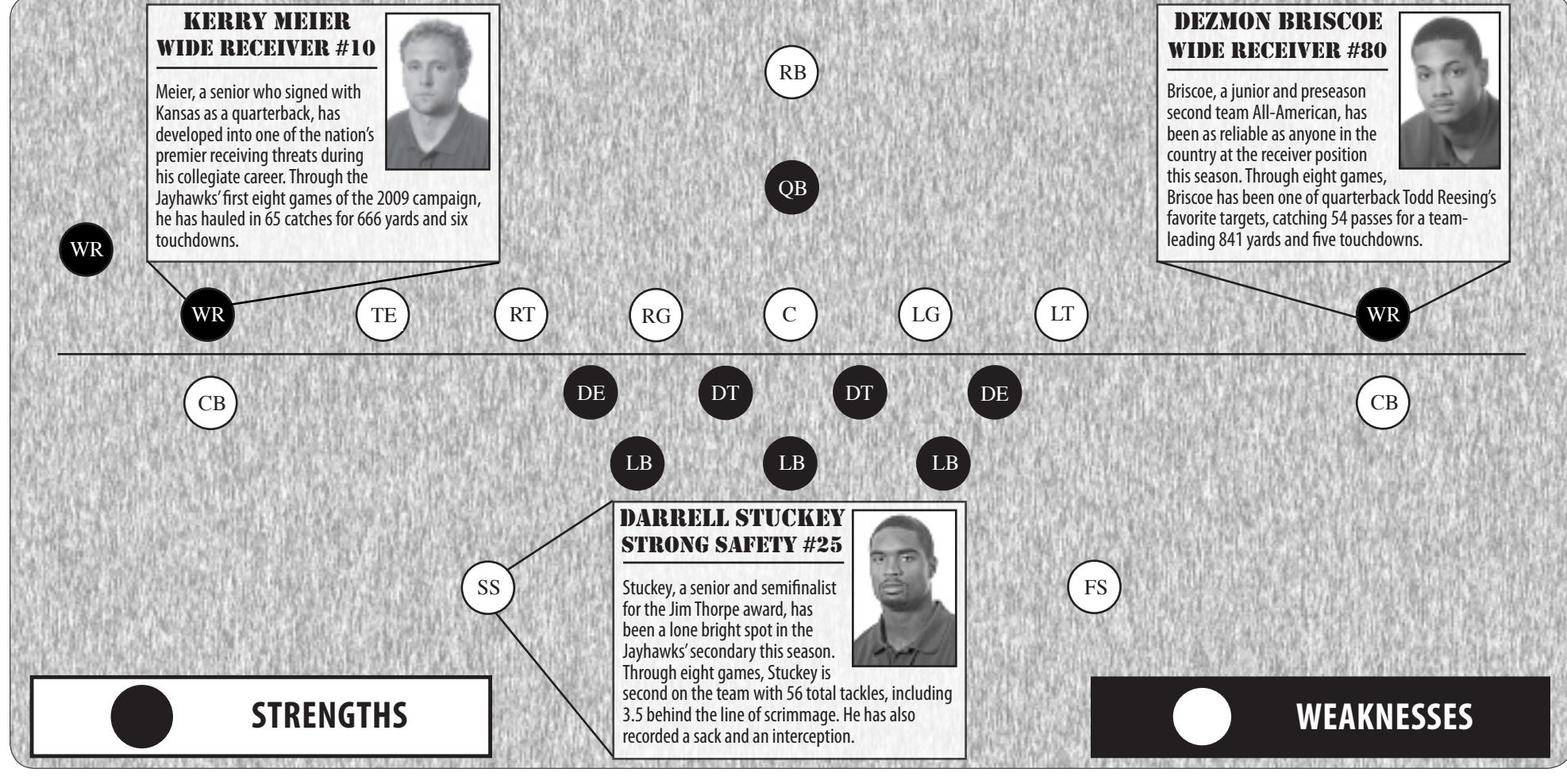
"It was only D-2 schools that were offering me stuff," Valentine said. "I felt like I was a D-1 player, so I talked to them about walking on and if I could earn a scholarship."

To avoid injuries, such as the one that plagued his first year playing, Valentine said extra stretching, listening to the coaches and

See VALENTINE, Page 5



Scouting Report



STRENGTHS

Quarterback: Todd Reesing, the Jayhawks' starting signal-caller, has struggled in recent weeks, but KU's passing attack still ranks seventh nationally with 311.6 yards per game. This could mean trouble for K-State if the Wildcat defensive line can't apply pressure and force Reesing to make mistakes.

Wide receiver: For the second consecutive season, the Jayhawks possess one of the nation's most lethal

receiving tandems in Kerry Meier and Dezmon Briscoe. Through KU's first eight games, the duo has combined for 119 catches, 1,507 yards and 11 scores. Expect this receiving corp to provide the K-State secondary with arguably its biggest challenge of the season.

Defensive line: While the statistics indicate that the Jayhawks' defense has been subpar this season, the front four has held its own. The starting unit, led by Jake Laptad, has accumulated 54 total tackles this season, in-

cluding 15.5 behind the line of scrimmage. The starters have also recorded 10 sacks and forced four fumbles in 2009. Opposing running backs have not fared well against KU, as the Jayhawks have allowed just 3.1 yards per carry so far.

Linebacker: Racking up tackles hasn't been an issue for KU's starting linebacking corps this season. Drew Dudley leads a starting unit that has recorded 145 total stops, including nine for negative yardage. The unit has also caused

problems for opposing

quarterbacks, recording four sacks this season.

WEAKNESSES

Running back: It's no secret the Jayhawks' offensive unit is primarily focused on the passing game, and that game plan has taken a toll on KU's ground attack. The Jayhawks average just 136.2 rushing yards per contest, which ranks fourth out of Big 12 North division teams. Expect the Wildcat defensive front to take advantage of KU's

subpar ground game early and often.

Tight end: Because they put such a talented receiving unit on the field each week, the Jayhawks have overlooked the tight end position. Starter Tim Biere has seen action, but he's only caught seven passes for 95 yards and no touchdowns.

Offensive line: While KU's lack of production on the ground may be a product of the offensive play calling, the blame for lack of protection can be placed squarely

on the shoulders of the Jayhawks' front five. The unit has allowed 21 sacks this season, which ranks 10th in the Big 12. That means it's likely that K-State's defensive line will be able to keep Reesing on the run.

Secondary: Outside of Darrell Stuckey, KU's defensive backs have lacked big play ability so far this season. Through eight games, the starters have only intercepted a single pass while allowing an average of 247.4 passing yards per contest.

-Compiled by Justin Nutter

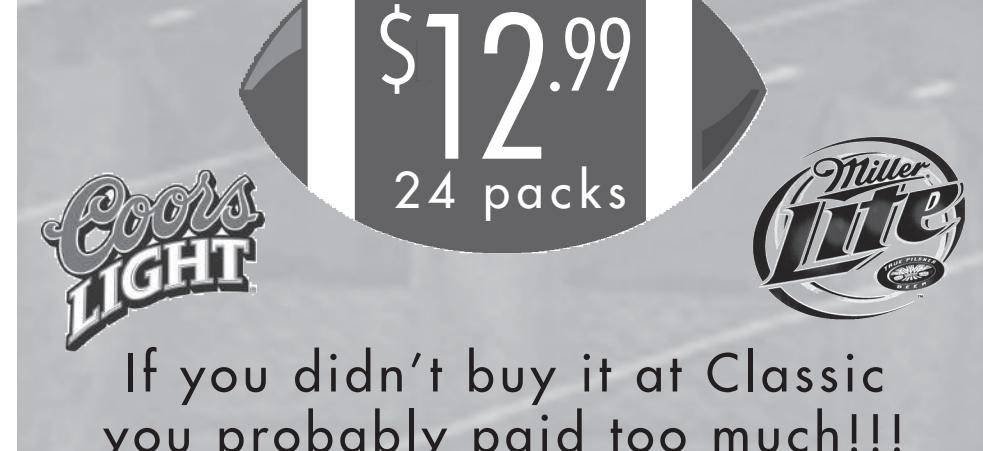
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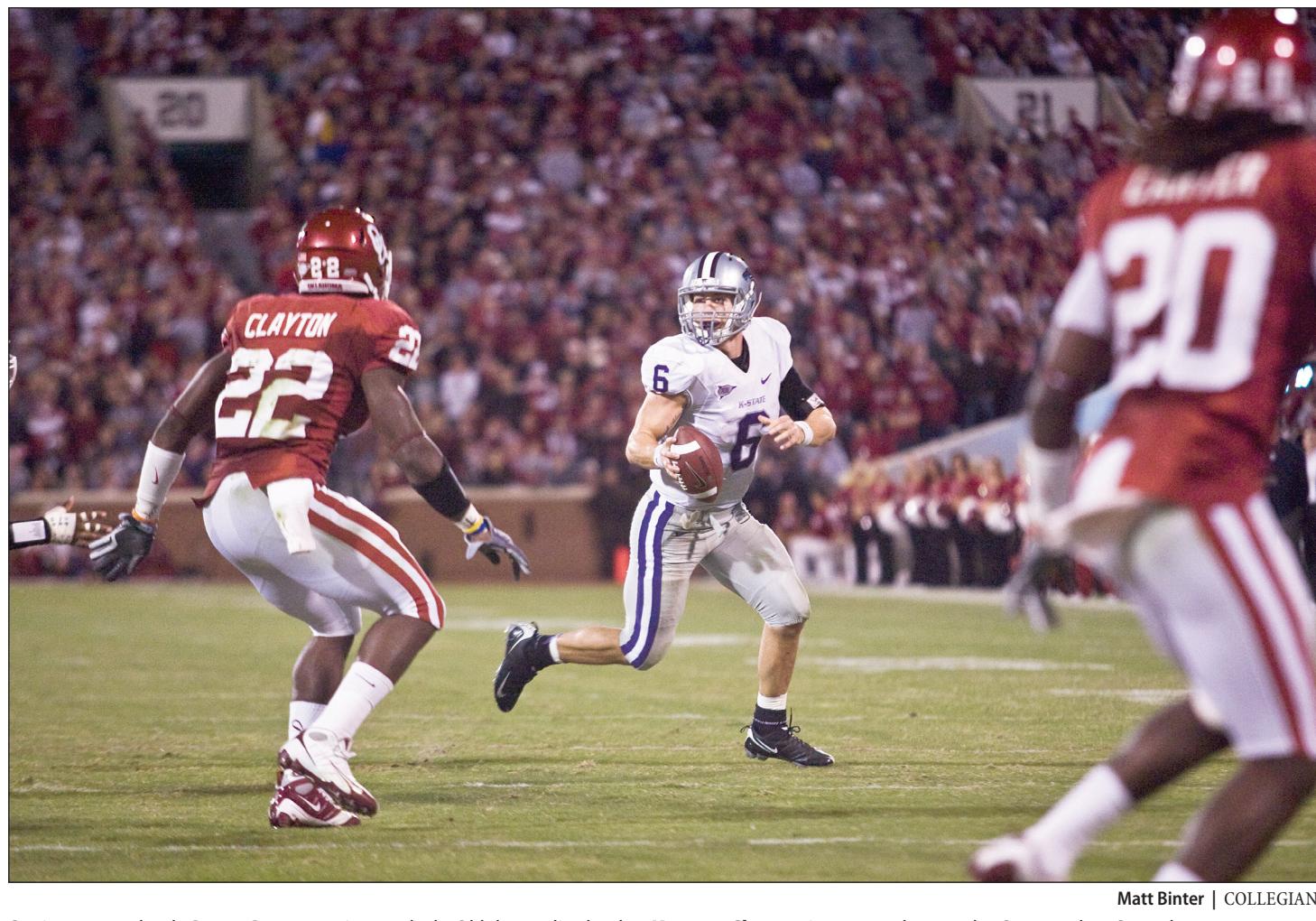
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Buying time



Matt Binter | COLLEGIAN

Senior quarterback **Grant Gregory** tries to elude Oklahoma linebacker **Keenan Clayton** in a 42-30 loss to the Sooners last Saturday.

The Collegian sat down with senior quarterback Grant Gregory to talk about the rivalry with Kansas and how he has progressed since being named the starter to open the conference portion of the season.

Q: Do you think the game plan will be different this week with a more air-attack offense since their secondary is a little bit weaker than their front line?



Gregory

A: Obviously every defense wants to stop the run, and every offense wants to run the ball. Our whole game plan isn't complete yet, whether we figure it out today or tomorrow, but we will try to do the same thing. At this point in the season, it's not going to change too much.

Q: With an undefeated home record this year, do you think playing at home motivates the team to play better in front of a home crowd?

A: Things are easier when you play at home. The

crowd is behind the defense the whole time. It's easier to call audibles at the line. That's why we call it a home-field advantage. We're 4-0 right now, and an undefeated home season would be great. We want to get a 5-0 at home this week.

Q: What do you think of the KU/K-State rivalry coming from the southeast?

A: It's either we are 4-2 or 3-3 at the end of this week. There's a huge difference. Interstate games are for bragging rights. You always see people around with KU or K-State stuff around the state.

Q: How well do you think you've fit in with this team now compared to when the season started?

A: Very well. It doesn't matter where you are; the players love football. They all got to know me and liked me right away.

Q: With this being your last year and how this season has gone so far, do you wish you had one more year to play?

A: I wish I had 10 more years. College football is the best time of our lives. It's the only thing I ever wanted to do and help a team win. Getting my opportunities has been awesome.

-Compiled by Tyler Scott

Gregory cherishes chance to be Wildcats' starting quarterback

By Ashley Dunkak

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

A sixth-year student working on his master's degree, quarterback Grant Gregory finally got the opportunity he had been working and hoping for his whole life.

After beginning the 2009 season as a backup yet again, Gregory gradually earned the starting spot. He started for the first time against Iowa State, and last week at Oklahoma he had his most consistent game since then, going 19-30 for 174 yards.

"It's awesome going into the game knowing you're going to have an opportunity to help the team," Gregory said. "For the last four years being a backup and hoping to get to play because hopefully you're beating somebody good, it's a lot different to go in the week of practice knowing you're going to get a chance to help the team."

While Gregory said he knows if he does not play well he will not play, it gives him confidence knowing the team is getting used to him playing.

He said now they know a little bit more about him and there is a little bit more continuity in the offense. Gregory said continuity with the receivers is huge and difficult to develop in non-game situations.

"You can throw all summer, which we did, but the things that happen with the defense on the field make a huge difference, and being able to throw to receivers on the field and learn what they do helps a lot," Gregory said.

With the game against rival KU this weekend, Gregory said he has never experienced anything quite like it.

"At South Florida we had conference rivalries, but our [University of Central Florida] rivalry wasn't like this because we were Big East, and

UCF was Conference USA," Gregory said. "This is an inter-conference rivalry, so I haven't had anything like this."

He said he expects them to play as hard as any team they're going to play.

"They'll be ready to get out there and be ready to hit us," Gregory said.

Although Gregory has been improving, the passing game in general has struggled this season. Even in the 20-6 win over Colorado, Gregory completed 9 of 18 passes for only 80 yards. In the Texas A&M game, in which the Wildcats scored 62 points, he threw for a normally respectable 10-13 for 147 yards. However, one might think 62 points would be a result of more than 147 yards through the air. Backup quarterback Carson Coffman had slightly higher statistics in the early part of the season, but the numbers are not significantly different.

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Wildcats look to make a statement against Jayhawks

The Wildcats put on a comeback last week against Oklahoma but couldn't seal a victory in Norman, Okla. The defense gave up 21 quick first-quarter points and could not stop the Sooner offense even when they were facing a first down and 45 yards to go.

Though the Wildcats lost, to put up 30 points at Oklahoma and almost come out with a victory is astounding. They broke the big 28-point underdog line and only lost by 12.

Daniel Thomas had more than 80 yards on the ground and a 41-yard pass. Senior running back Keithen Valentine made his name heard by getting the bulk of the plays on the field and scoring two rushing touchdowns.

Grant Gregory did not have too bad of a game, throwing for 174 yards and an interception. The interception came in the last 30 seconds of the game when the team was trying to make the game closer. Overall, not a bad performance.

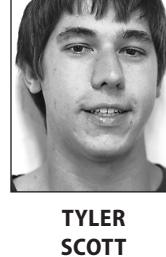
Brandon Banks showed off more of his skills by getting 156 yards receiving on nine receptions. He also returned another kickoff for a touchdown after Oklahoma scored a touchdown.

If Oklahoma's offense had not gotten off to a hot start, K-State could have pulled off a huge upset. It would have been a hot topic if the Sooners had stumbled somehow.

Next up for the Wildcats are the Kansas Jayhawks. The long anticipated game has finally come, when the Wildcats will try to avenge last year's 52-21 loss to KU almost exactly a year ago. Remember, K-State is undefeated at home this year with a 4-0 record, so a win against KU would make the record look even bigger.

In the past, KU has always been about its air attack offense with Todd Reesing in command. However, Reesing has struggled in the last couple games, throwing interceptions and even being benched in last week's game against the Red Raiders. The benching might have been because of an injury.

For Mark Mangino to



TYLER SCOTT

pull off a move like that is very hard to believe. Maybe Reesing can get benched again if he's not up to Mangino's expectations this week.

Besides Reesing having troubles, the Jayhawk defense has not played well at all. Their secondary is weak, and the only player having a little bit of success is defensive end Jake Laptad.

Reesing has thrown for more than 2,000 yards and 16 touchdowns with seven interceptions. Running back Toben Opurum has rushed for almost 500 yards and nine touchdowns.

K-State will also have to keep an eye on standout wide receiver Dezmon Briscoe, who has more than 800 receiving yards and five touchdowns.

If the Wildcats want a chance to win, I think they need to throw the ball more. Good protection for Gregory will also help to give him time to find open receivers. Also, if the defense plays the way they did against Texas A&M's high-pass offense, K-State is sure to come out on top.

If you had asked me at the beginning of the season who was going to win this game, I would have said KU by a landslide. However, with how things have turned around so quickly for the Wildcats and how the KU defense has looked this season, it's not that easy of a call.

With the home-field advantage and good record for the Wildcats, they have a good chance to win this game. The crowd has definitely played a factor all year long at Snyder Family Stadium.

The defense will really need to buckle down on containing Reesing and shutting down the running game of Opurum and Jake Sharp.

I think with KU's all around troubles on offense and defense, K-State will pull off a victory. The game might not be high-scoring, but the Wildcats should win 31-24.

Tyler Scott is a junior in mass communications. Please send comments to sports@spub.ksu.edu

Matching Up



VS.



OFFENSE



DEFENSE



Division race increases importance of Sunflower Showdown



Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN

Junior running back **Daniel Thomas** runs past Colorado linebacker **Jeff Smart** in a 20-6 win over the Buffaloes. Thomas leads the team in rushing yardage and is an important piece of the Wildcats' recent success in the Big 12 North race.

By Justin Nutter
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

To most of Wildcat Nation, Dec. 8, 2005, must seem like a very long time ago.

That was the last time the K-State football team, a program once feared across the Big 12 Conference, knocked off in-state rival Kansas. The final score of 12-3 accurately reflected the teams' performances. Neither squad managed more than a single field goal in the game's first three quarters. The Wildcats and Jayhawks combined for seven fumbles. There were 21 penalties, 14 punts, four sacks and four turnovers. By any team's standards, it was as ugly as a college football game can get.

But, ugly or not, it was a win for the Wildcats, and it meant the Governor's Cup was back in Manhattan.

Since then, head coach Bill Snyder has retired and returned from his three-year retirement stint. During that span, K-State went 0-3 against the Jayhawks under former head coach Ron Prince. In fact, the Jayhawks have been nearly as dominant as the Wildcats were in the 1990s, outscoring K-State 121-65, including a 59-21 manhandling last year in Lawrence.

But with Prince gone and Snyder back at the helm, many Wildcats believe the rivalry has been rekindled.

"I know it's a huge game," said se-

nior quarterback Grant Gregory. "I'm really looking forward to the intensity of the rivalry. When I first got here, [my teammates] let me know which games are true rivalries, and KU – it's a big game."

While he's been well-informed by other players about what's at stake, Gregory, a transfer from the University of South Florida, said Saturday will be his first experience in a legitimate rivalry matchup.

"In South Florida, we were in a new conference and everything was brand new, so rivalries were just developing," he said. "It's nice to have a rivalry that's been around for a while."

For the first time in recent memory, Gregory and the Wildcats (5-4, 3-2 Big 12 Conference) will have more than just bragging rights on the line when they take the field against KU (5-3, 1-3) on Saturday. K-State leads the Big 12 North division, and a win against the Jayhawks would virtually eliminate them from the division race and propel the Wildcats one step closer to their fourth Big 12 Championship appearance.

"We've just got to go out and treat this like another game," said sophomore safety Tysyn Hartman. "I mean, it's a big in-state rivalry game that really means a lot to us right now, especially as far as contending in the North, but really, we've just got to see it as another game. We'll prepare for it the same way we've been prepar-

ing for all those other games up until this point."

To secure a win, K-State will be faced with the daunting task of neutralizing KU wideouts Kerry Meier and Dezmon Briscoe, who comprise one of the nation's most lethal receiving duos. So far this season, the pair has combined for 119 catches, 1,507 yards and 11 touchdowns. As a unit, the Jayhawks' passing offense ranks seventh nationally with 311.6 yards per contest.

"Briscoe is as good as I've seen," Snyder said. "They're all big. They're aggressive wide receivers. Kerry has as good of hands as you'll find in the game of football anywhere. It's hard to defend those guys."

While the Wildcats' pass defense has been susceptible at times this season – K-State is giving up 234.3 passing yards per game – players like Hartman and junior cornerback Joshua Moore have stepped up this season. As a whole, the Wildcat defense has combined for 11 interceptions and 10 fumble recoveries. The Wildcats, who are listed as three-point underdogs, will likely need to win the turnover battle again on Saturday in order to come away victorious.

Fans who can't make it out to Snyder Family Stadium this weekend can watch K-State try to extend its division lead and down the Jayhawks live on VERSUS. Kickoff is slated for 11:30 a.m.

Reesing not to blame for Jayhawks' recent struggles

Todd Reesing has taken as many hits off the field as he has on it. As Kansas has sulked and staggered its way through its last three games, Reesing, Kansas' spunky leader, has taken the brunt of the blame.

Reesing was being celebrated as a Heisman dark-horse candidate just three short weeks ago. This week, no one was sure whether Reesing was going to start. He was benched during the Texas Tech game in favor of freshman Kale Pick.

While Kansas has looked nothing like the team that ran through the first portion of its schedule and was going to be in contention for a Big 12 North title, the problem does not lie with Reesing.

Kansas should have won the Colorado game. Dezmon Briscoe dropped two game-winning touchdown catches. The adage states, if a receiver gets his hands on the ball, then he should catch it – and Briscoe got his paws all over the pigskin on those season-determining drops.

Reesing played terribly against a stout Oklahoma defense. He threw three interceptions, none more important than an early pick-six that deflated the Jayhawks. The game that broke the camel's back, or Mangino's in this case, was the Texas Tech game. Reesing threw for 181 yards and one touchdown.

Maybe Reesing's legacy broke him. Maybe



PAUL HARRIS

the 5-foot-11 quarterback who could carry a team for the last two seasons could not carry his own legacy. Or Kansas fans are looking forward to basketball season and see losing as an easy way out.

I have no idea, but to blame Reesing is absolutely asinine. Reesing is the only reason this team even has five wins.

While Reesing's numbers are not as impressive as they have been, they are still very impressive. Through the season, he has nearly 2,400 yards, 16 touchdowns and seven interceptions.

Kansas' issues lie in its inexperienced offensive line and its defense. KU fans seem to think if you have a good offense than you are in good shape. As they have come to realize, defense, not offense, wins championships. But because of the Jayhawks' recent introduction to the game, I'll give them a pass.

Reesing is the starter for this game. Too bad Mangino did not follow Tom Keegan's advice and start wide receiver Kerry Meier at quarterback.

It will be interesting to see how long Reesing's leash is. Will Mangino pull the senior leader for redshirt freshman Kale Pick in a hostile environment?

Kansas fans blame the lack of swagger for their recent failures, but maybe the swagger became too much too handle.

But it is basketball season.

Paul Harris is a junior in mass communications. Please send comments to sports@spub.ksu.edu

VALENTINE | Senior running back says he is honored to play for Wildcats, Snyder

Continued from Page 1

doctors, being careful and working hard in preparation before the season have made the difference.

In Louisiana, Valentine first heard about Coach Bill Snyder and the Wildcats when they started winning, he said. He heard about Darren Sproles, who was a smaller back getting a shot at a big level, and when he did his research, he learned about the turnaround.

"It was just impressive what they did, being underdogs, coming from the bottom," Valentine said. "That's like my motto: coming from the bottom and getting to the top."

Valentine said it is an honor to play under Snyder because he is a legend. Valentine said Snyder does not holler or scream; he whispers and gets his point across.

"I haven't been under too many coaches," Valentine said. "But I think he's the best coach in the world. I thank God I play

for K-State and am playing for him."

Valentine said Snyder doesn't really talk about football. He said you hear a lot of players say that, but he really focuses on the person.

"Never quitting on life because if you quit now, with books and school and not doing the right thing, that carries over to after football," Valentine said. "So he focuses on making sure you go to class, do your work, not being a failure and not giving up."

Valentine said the running backs, as a whole, have a good relationship.

"Everybody's trying to fight for the position, but we help each other," he said. "We have fun. A lot of people say that they feel like brothers, but we really feel like brothers, and it's been good playing with them."

Valentine said notwithstanding the trials he has gone through has helped me become the person he is. He said he has learned through the ups and downs just to be patient and wait his turn, to be ready when opportunity comes.

OTHER BIG 12 GAMES THIS WEEK

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Banks exceeding expectations as special teams threat

By Ashley Dunkak
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Senior wide receiver Brandon Banks received the distinction of Big 12 Special Teams Player of the Week for the third time in nine games after his performance against Oklahoma last Saturday.

That effort included a 98-yard kickoff return for a touchdown on the way to 351 all-purpose yards – the most in the nation this year.

In the post-game press conference after that game, Banks said the team found itself to be capable of moving the ball anytime.

"I think we have a little more confidence on the offensive side of the ball," Banks said. "Just

knowing that we can put points on the board. Thirty points tonight, we're pretty excited about that."

Early in the season, Banks said one of his goals was to catch a lot of touchdowns. While he does lead the team in receiving yards, his four of his five touchdowns have come on kickoff returns. Accordingly, he sits atop the Big 12 Conference in the categories of kick return touchdowns, kick return average with 31.8 and kick return yards with 953.

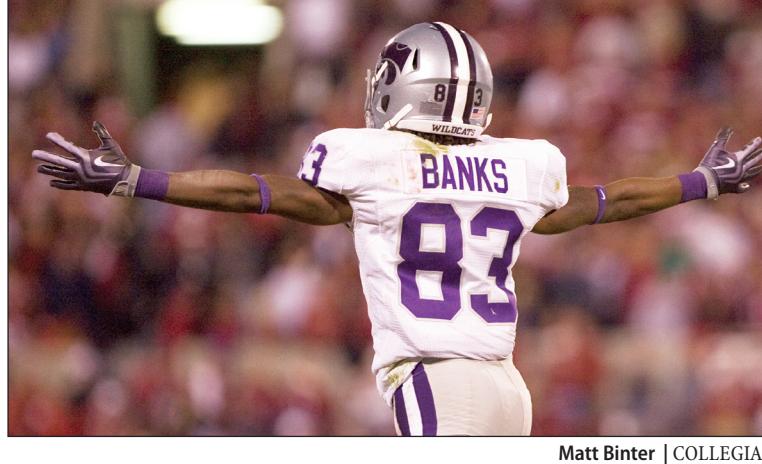
As far as receiving, Banks ranks first on the team with 524 yards on the season. He averages 12.5 yards per catch and 58 receiving yards per game.

He also leads the team in all-purpose yards with an average of 183 yards a game.

At Tuesday's press conference, senior quarterback Grant Gregory said Banks is one of the fastest people he has ever played with.

"He is always one missed tackle or one juke away from taking it to the house," Gregory said. "When he gets the ball in the game, he really shows what he can do."

Last year Banks was proclaimed the Big 12 Newcomer of the Year, a distinction earned by gaining more than 1,000 receiving yards. The Bakersfield, Calif., transfer has seemingly proved this season that the award was deserved.



Matt Binter | COLLEGIAN

Senior wide receiver Brandon Banks celebrates after returning a kickoff for a touchdown in the 42-30 loss to Oklahoma.

Rivals have high hopes for a Sunflower Showdown win

By Grant Guggisberg
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The K-State football team takes on the Kansas Jayhawks in the 107th Sunflower Showdown at Snyder Family Stadium, Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

For the Big 12 North-leading Wildcats (5-4, 3-2 Big 12 Conference), this game is pivotal in winning the division and reaching the postseason. For the Jayhawks (5-3, 1-3 Big 12), this game is key in salvaging a poor conference season that has seen three straight losses after an opening win against Iowa State. Head coach Bill Snyder, who typically stresses each game is as important as the next, said in his weekly press conference this game is a big one for the Wildcats.

"Well, I'm quite certain that the vast majority of our players would like to bring the Governor's Cup back to Manhattan," Snyder said. "This game is very important to all of our team, especially our players from Kansas. I think that this is a very significant game for every one involved on both sides."

Kansas head coach Mark Mangino said this week he is less concerned with standings than he is about improving his football team.

"I do not think you can look at the North standings," Mangino said. "I think you have to look at yourself and how we are going to get better. We can't sit around and talk about winning the North. We have to talk about winning a game."

Mangino added that this game is important to most all sports fans in Kansas, and that this year's Wildcat team is far different from previous ones under former head coach

Ron Prince.

"They are back to playing basic, principle football," Mangino said. "They are not real flashy. They do not take a lot of chances."

While the Wildcats have made many changes since the departure of Prince, Snyder's biggest goal for the season is to see his team improve each week, something they haven't always been able to do. Despite losing a tough game against Oklahoma last week, Snyder is keeping his team focused down the home stretch in what could be a special year for the Wildcats.

"We just keep telling them that we, maybe more than anyone else in the conference, control our own destiny," Snyder said. "But that's really the only dialogue that we have had with them in terms of the success that the near future could possibly hold. We put a great deal of emphasis on taking things one day at a time."

This game puts a special emphasis on the state rivalry, with players getting especially excited to take the field.

"Everybody talks about it at the beginning of the season," said senior running back Keithen Valentine. "It is here now, and everybody was looking forward to it on the schedule, and everyone is getting pumped up for it."

While all of the players involved know the meaning behind it, some have not always seen it as a heated rivalry.

"I did not watch it real closely," said sophomore safety Tysyn Hartman, a Wichita native. "Growing up, K-State was known for football, and KU was known for basketball, but recently they have had a good run, and we are looking to end that."

Kansas wide receiver Kerry Meier knows the Sunflower Showdown rivalry more than most; his two older brothers,

Shad and Dylan, both played at K-State. However, they did not push their younger brother too hard to choose K-State.

"They knew that it was my decision and that I'm my own man and whatever decision I made they were going to be 100 percent behind me," Meier said. "I'm glad about the decision I made, coming to KU. I have been happy about it."

After this week's game against Kansas, the Wildcats host the Missouri Tigers at Snyder Family Stadium next Saturday. Kickoff for the final home game of the season is set for 11:30 a.m.

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